## IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled).

color object constituting a background of the black object;

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An image forming device, comprising:

a receiver that receives image data including a plurality of color areas and black area;

a receiving part that receives image data including a color object and a black object, the

determining part that determines a first amount which is an amount of [[the]] a black material to be applied to [[the]] a black area corresponding to the black object and a second amount which is an amount of [[the]] color materials to be applied to the black area, the determining part determining each of the first and second amounts based on density of the black [[area]] object regardless of the color object; and

an output part that outputs the first and second amounts to the black area.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 10, wherein the output part outputs the second amount to the black area after the first amount is output to the black area.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 10, wherein each of the first and second amounts is more than zero.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 10, wherein the output part outputs the first and second amounts to the black area being positioned on a recording medium including a paper.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 10, wherein,

the color materials include primary colors of yellow (Y), magenta (M), and cyan (C), and the determining part determines each amount of the color materials of the Y, M, and C in a range of 10 to 40% (percentage by weight) of the first amount.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 15, further comprising,

a reduction unit that reduces each of the amounts of the color materials of the Y, M, and C without reducing the first amount when a total amount of the first and second amounts exceeds a predetermined amount.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 10, further comprising,

an edge detector that detects an edge of the black area, wherein, the determining part determines a third amount which is an amount of the color materials to be applied to a periphery of the edge, and the output part outputs the third amount to the periphery of the edge.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The image forming device according to claim 15, further comprising,

an adjuster that adjusts at least one of the second and third amounts when the determining part determines a total amount of the first, second and third amounts to exceed a predetermined amount.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An image forming method, comprising:

receiving image data including a plurality of color object areas and a black object, the color object constituting a background of the black object area;

determining a first amount which is an amount of [[the]] <u>a</u> black material to be applied to [[the]] <u>a</u> black area and a second amount which is an amount of [[the]] color materials to be applied to the black area, wherein each of the first and second amounts is determined based on density of the black <u>object regardless of the color object area</u>; and

outputting the first and second amounts to the black area.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 046601-5034

Application No.: 09/450,584

Page 6

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19,

wherein outputting the second amount to the black area after the first amount is output to the

black area.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19,

wherein each of the first and second amounts is more than zero.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19,

wherein outputting the first and second amounts to the black area being positioned on a recording

medium including a paper.

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19,

wherein,

the color materials include primary colors of yellow (Y), magenta (M), and cyan (C), and

determining each amount of color materials of the Y, M, and C in a range of 10 to 40%

(percentage by weight) of the first amount.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 24, further comprising,

reducing each of the amounts of the color materials of the Y, M, and C without reducing the first amount when a total amount of the first and second amounts exceeds a predetermined amount.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19, further comprising,

detecting an edge of the black area, wherein, determining a third amount which is an amount of the color materials to be applied to a periphery of the edge, and outputting the third amount to the periphery of the edge.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The image forming method according to claim 19, further comprising,

adjusting at least one of the second and third amounts when the determining part determines a total amount of the first, second and third amounts to exceed a predetermined.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium storing a program causing a computer to execute a process for image forming, the process comprising:

receiving image data including a plurality of color object areas and a black object, the color object constituting a background of the black object area;

determining a first amount which is an amount of [[the]] a black material to be applied to [[the]] a black area corresponding to the black object and a second amount which is an amount of [[the]] color materials to be applied to the black area, wherein each of the first and second amounts is determined based on density of the black object regardless of the color object [[area]]; and

outputting the first and second amounts to the black area.

Claim 29 (New): The image forming device according to claim 10, further comprising:

a storing part that stores characteristic which is used for determining the first amount and
the second amount based on the density of the black object, wherein

the determining part determines the first and second amounts based on the characteristic.

Claim 30 (New): The image forming device according to claim 19, further comprising: a storing part that stores characteristic which is used for determining the first amount and the second amount based on the density of the black object, wherein

the determining part determines the first and second amounts based on the characteristic.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 046601-5034

Application No.: 09/450,584

Page 9

Claim 31 (New): The image forming device according to claim 28, further comprising:

a storing part that stores characteristic which is used for determining the first amount and

the second amount based on the density of the black object, wherein

the determining part determines the first and second amounts based on the characteristic.